

Submitted: January 15, 2015  
Approved: February 19, 2015

**MINUTES OF THE ROCKVILLE  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
MEETING NO. 1-2015  
Thursday, January 15, 2015**

The City of Rockville Historic District Commission convened  
in the Mayor and Council Chambers on  
January 15, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT**

Rob Achtmeyer  
Craig Moloney  
Anita Neal-Powell  
Jessica Reynolds  
Joe Hansen

**Present:** Jim Wasilak, Chief of Planning  
Sheila Bashiri, Historic Preservation Planner

**I. AGENDA REVIEW WORKSESSION/EXECUTIVE SESSION** began at 7:00 p.m. in the Diamondback Terrapin Conference Room, and no decisions were made.

**II. COMMITTEE/ORGANIZATION REPORTS**

- A. Nancy Pickard, Executive Director of Peerless Rockville, provided a summation of past events and offered information on upcoming events. You may contact Ms. Pickard for more information on 301-762-0096, or see [www.peerlessrockville.org](http://www.peerlessrockville.org).
- B. You may contact Anita Neal Powell, Executive Director of The Lincoln Park Historical Society with any questions regarding upcoming events at 301-674-1644, or email to [lincolnparkhist@aol.com](mailto:lincolnparkhist@aol.com).
- C. Public Comments/Open Forum – There were no public comments.
- D. Commissioner Reynolds requested a change in the Agenda, switching the order of Items 5 and 6. There were no objections.

The HDC conducted the election of a new Chair for the 2015 calendar year.

*Commissioner Neal-Powell moved, seconded by Commissioner Moloney, to nominate Commissioner Hansen as Chair of the City of Rockville Historic District Commission for calendar year 2015.*

*The motion passed 5-0. The change in the Chair will be effective with the February meeting.*

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** December 18, 2014

*Commissioner Moloney moved, seconded by Commissioner Hansen, to approve the Consent Agenda.*

*The motion passed 5-0.*

#### **IV. EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE FOR DEMOLITION**

- A. **HDC2015-00713**, Benham Safarazi, 540 Brent Road, for an Evaluation of significance to allow demolition of dwelling.

Sheila Bashiri presented her staff report stating the property does not meet any of the adopted criteria for historic designation and recommended against approval.

Benham Safarazi, owner of the property stated he and his business partner bought the property for his daughter with the plan to build two homes on it to secure her future.

*Commissioner Reynolds moved, seconded by Commissioner Neal-Powell, stating that the property does not meet any of the adopted criteria for designation, and recommended against historic designation.*

*The motion passed 5-0.*

#### **V. DISCUSSION**

- A. HDC Retreat – Ms. Bashiri indicated that she contacted the Glenview Mansion staff, who gave her several available dates in April and May for the retreat; Ms. Bashiri also offered an overview of the topics of discussion for the meeting.
- B. Update on designation process text amendment – Commissioner Achtmeyer asked for an update on the designation process.

Mr. Wasilak informed the HDC that the designation process has begun and the Mayor and Council has authorized the filing of the text amendment. The next steps are to: 1) send the text amendment to the Planning Commission for recommendation on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2) then it will return to the Mayor and Council on March 2<sup>nd</sup> for a public hearing, 3) followed by 3 additional steps and hopefully adoption by late April or early May.

- C. Update on HDC2015-00712, 5 Choke Cherry Road – Ms. Bashiri informed the HDC that the evaluation 5 Choke Cherry Road will be coming back to the HDC in February. Further research is being compiled about architect John Sullivan.

Mr. Wasilak provided an update on 100 W. Montgomery Avenue and said that staff would reach out to the owners again regarding maintenance of the house.

#### **VI. ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chair Pro Temp Moloney adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Sandra Y. Driver, Commission Secretary